What is claimed is:

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- 1. Fused, crystalline abrasive particle comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total metal oxide volume of said particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least:
 - (a) crystalline ZrO₂ and
 - (b) at least two
 - (i) crystalline Al₂O₃,
 - (ii) first crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$, or
 - (iii) second, different, crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃.
- 2. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 1 comprising at least 50 percent by volume, based on the total metal oxide volume of said particle, of said eutectic material.
- 3. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 2 comprising, on a theoretical oxide basis, at least 40 percent by weight Al₂O₃, based on the total metal oxide content of said particle.
- 20 4. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 3, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle further comprises primary crystals of Al₂O₃.
 - 5. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 3, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle comprises colonies of said eutectic, and wherein said colonies have an average size of less than 100 micrometers.
 - 6. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 5, wherein said colonies have an average size of less than 50 micrometers.

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- 7. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 3, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle comprises colonies of said eutectic, and wherein crystals making up said colonies are, on average, up to 10 micrometers in size.
- 5 8. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 7, wherein said crystals are, on average, up to 1 micrometer in size.
 - 9. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 3, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle further comprises at least one of crystalline rare earth oxide or crystalline complex Al₂O₃·rare earth oxide.
 - 10. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 3, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle further comprises at least one of crystalline BaO, CaO, Cr₂O₃, CoO, Fe₂O₃, HfO₂, Li₂O, MgO, MnO, NiO, SiO₂, TiO₂, Na₂O, Sc₂O₃, SrO, V₂O₃, ZnO, or complex Al₂O₃ · metal oxide thereof.
 - 11. The fused crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 3, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle has an average microhardness of at least 13 GPa.

The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 3, wherein said complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃ further comprises cations in addition to Al and Y.

13. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 3, wherein a portion of said complex Al₂O₃·Y₂O₃ Al cations are substituted with at least one cation selected from the following cations: Cr, Ti, Sc, Fe, Mg, Ca, Si, and Co.

14. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 3, wherein a portion of said complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃ Y cations are substituted with at least one cation selected from the following cations: Ce, Dy, Er, Eu, Gd, Ho, La, Lu, Nd, Pr, Sm, Th, Tm, and Yb.

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- The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 3, wherein a portion of said complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$ Y cations are substituted with at least one cation selected from the following cations: Fe, Ti, Mn, V, Cr, Co, Ni, Cu, Mg, Ca, and Sr.
- 16. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 2, said fused, crystalline abrasive particle further comprises primary crystals of Y₃Al₅O₁₂.
- 17. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 1,
 wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO₂, (b) crystalline Al₂O₃,
 and (c) crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃.
 - 18. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 17 comprising at least 50 percent by volume, based on the total metal oxide volume of said particle, of said eutectic material.
 - 19. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 18 comprising, on a theoretical oxide basis, at least 40 percent by weight Al₂O₃, based on the total metal oxide content said particle.
 - 20. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 19, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle comprises colonies of said eutectic, and wherein crystals making up said colonies are, on average, up to 10 micrometers in size.
- 21. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 19, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle further comprises at least one of crystalline BaO, CaO, Cr₂O₃, CoO, Fe₂O₃, HfO₂, Li₂O, MgO, MnO, NiO, SiO₂, TiO₂, Na₂O, SrO, Sc₂O₃, V₂O₃, ZnO, or complex Al₂O₃ · metal oxide thereof.

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- 22. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 19, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle has an average microhardness of at least 13 GPa.
- The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 1, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO₂, (b) first crystalline complex Al₂O₃·Y₂O₃, and (c) second, different, crystalline complex Al₂O₃·Y₂O₃.
- 24. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 23 comprising at least 50 percent by volume, based on the total metal oxide volume of said particle, of said eutectic material.
 - 25. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 24 comprising, on a theoretical oxide basis, at least 40 percent by weight Al₂O₃, based on the total metal oxide content said particle.
 - 26. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 25, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle comprises colonies of said eutectic, and wherein crystals making up said colonies are, on average, up to 10 micrometers in size.
 - 27. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 25, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle further comprises at least one of crystalline BaO, CaO, Cr₂O₃, CoO, Fe₂O₃, HfO₂, Li₂O, MgO, MnO, NiO, SiO₂, TiO₂, Na₂O, SrO, Sc₂O₃, V₂O₃, ZnO, or complex Al₂O₃ · metal oxide thereof.
 - 28. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 25, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle has an average microhardness of at least 13 GPa.

- 29. Fused, crystalline abrasive particle comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total metal oxide volume of said particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least:
 - (a) crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃ and
- 5 (b) crystalline $\mathbb{Z}rO_2$.
 - 30. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 29 comprising at least 50 percent by volume, based on the total metal oxide volume of said particle, of said eutectic material.
 - 31. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 30 comprising, on a theoretical oxide basis, at least 40 percent by weight Al₂O₃, based on the total metal oxide content said particle.
 - 32. The fused crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 30, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle comprises colonies of said eutectic, and wherein crystals making up said colonies are, on average, up to 10 micrometers in size.
- 33. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 30, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle further comprises at least one of crystalline BaO, CaO, Cr₂O₃, CoO, Fe₂O₃, HfO₂, Li₂O, MgO, MnO, NiO, SiO₂, TiO₂, Na₂O, SrO, Sc₂O₃, V₂O₃, ZnO, or complex Al₂O₃ · metal oxide thereof.
- 34. The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 30, wherein said fused, crystalline abrasive particle has an average microhardness of at least 13 GPa.
 - The fused, crystalline abrasive particle according to claim 30 wherein at least a majority by weight of said crystalline ZrO₂ is cubic ZrO₂.

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- 36. A plurality of particles having a particle size distribution ranging from fine to coarse, wherein at least a portion of said plurality of particles are fused, crystalline abrasive particles comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total metal oxide volume of the respective particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least:
 - (a) crystalline ZrO₂ and
 - (b) at least two of:
 - (i) crystalline Al₂O₃,
 - (ii) first crystall ne complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃, or
 - (iii) second, deferent, crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃.
- 37. The plurality of particles according to claim 36, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO₂, (b) crystalline Al₂O₃, and (c) crystalline complex Al₂O₃.
- 38. The plurality of particles according to claim 36, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO₂, (b) first crystalline complex Al₂O₃·Y₂O₃, and (c) second, different, crystalline complex Al₂O₃·Y₂O₃.
- 39. A plurality of particles having a particle size distribution ranging from fine to coarse, wherein at least a portion of said plurality of particles are fused, crystalline abrasive particles comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total metal oxide volume of the respective particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least:
 - (a) crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$ and
 - (b) crystalline ZrO₂.
 - 40. The plurality of particles according to claim 39 wherein at least a majority by weight of said crystalline ZrO₂ is cubic ZrO₂.

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A plurality of abrasive particles having a specified nominal grade, said plurality of abrasive particle having a particle size distribution ranging from fine to coarse, wherein at least a portion of said abrasive particles is a plurality of fused, crystalline abrasive particles, said fused abrasive particles comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total metal oxide volume of the respective particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least:

- (a) crystalline ZrO₂ and
- (b) at least two of:
 - (i) crystalline Al₂O₃,
 - (ii) first crystalline complex Al₂O₃·Y₂O₃, or
 - (iii) second, different, crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃.
- 42. The plurality of abrasive particles according to claim 41, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO₂, (b) crystalline Al₂O₃, and (c) crystalline complex Al₂O₃, Y₂O₃.
- 43. The plurality of abrasive particles according to claim 41, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO_2 , (b) first crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$, and (c) second, different, crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$.

A plurality of abrasive particles having a specified nominal grade, said plurality of abrasive particle having a particle size distribution ranging from fine to coarse, wherein at least a portion of said abrasive particles is a plurality of fused, crystalline abrasive particles, said fused abrasive particles comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total metal oxide volume of the respective particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least:

- (a) crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃ and
- (b) crystalline ZrO₂.
- The plurality of abrasive particles according to claim 44 wherein at least a majority by weight of said crystalline ZrO₂ is cubic ZrO₂.



46. A method for making fused, crystalline abrasive particles comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total volume of the respective particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO₂ and (b) at least two of (i) crystalline Al₂O₃, (ii) first crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃, or (iii) second, different, crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃, said method comprising:

melting at least one Al₂O₃ source, at least one Y₂O₃ source, and at least one ZrO₂ source to provide a melt; and

converting the melt to said fused, crystalline abrasive particles.

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The method according to claim 26, wherein converting includes: cooling the melt to provide a solidified material; and crushing the solidified material to provide said fused, crystalline abrasive particles.

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The method according to claim 47, wherein cooling the melt includes cooling the melt with metallic plates.

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The method according to claim 47, wherein cooling the melt includes cooling the melt with metallic balls.

The method according to claim 46, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO_2 (b) crystalline Al_2O_3 , and crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$.

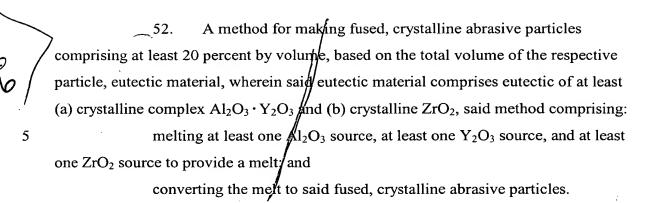
The method according to claim $\frac{37}{40}$, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO_2 , (b) first crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$, and (c) second, different, crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$.

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An abrasive article comprising a binder and a plurality of abrasive particles, wherein at least a portion of said abrasive particles are fused, crystalline abrasive particles comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total volume of the respective particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least:

- (a) crystalline ZrO2 and
- (b) at least two of:
 - (i) crystalline Al₂O₃,
 - (ii) first crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃, or
 - (iii) second, different, crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃.

The abrasive article according to claim 53, wherein said article is a coated abrasive article, and further comprises a backing.

The abrasive article according to claim 53, wherein said article is a bonded abrasive article.

The abrasive article according to claim 53, wherein said article is a nonwoven abrasive article, and further comprises a nonwoven web.

The abrasive article according to claim \$3, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO₂, (b) crystalline Al₂O₃, and (c) crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃.

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The abrasive article according to claim 52, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO₂, (b) first crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃, and (c) second, different, crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃.

An abrasive article comprising a binder and a plurality of abrasive particles, wherein at least a portion of said abrasive particles are fused, crystalline abrasive particles comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total volume of the respective particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least:

- (a) crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃ and
- (b) crystalline ZrO₂.

The abrasive article according to claim 59 wherein at least a majority by weight of said crystalline ZrO₂ is cubic ZrO₂.

A vitrified bonded abrasive article comprising a plurality of abrasive particles bonded together via vitrified bonding material, wherein at least a portion of said plurality of abrasive particles are fused, crystalline abrasive particles comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total volume of the respective particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least:

- (a) crystalline ZrO₂ and
- (b) at least two of:
 - (i) crystalline Al₂O₃,
 - (ii) first crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃, or
 - (iii) second, different, crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃.

The vitrified bonded abrasive article according to claim 64, wherein said vitrified bonding material comprises silica, alumina, and boria.

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The vitrified bonded abrasive article according to claim 62 wherein said vitrified bonding material comprises at least 10 percent by weight of said alumina.

The vitrified bonded abrasive article according to claim 63, wherein said vitrified bonding material comprises at least 10 percent by weight of said boria.

The vitrified bonded abrasive article according to claim 61, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO₂, (b) crystalline Al₂O₃, and (c) crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃.

The vitrified bonded abrasive article according to claim 61, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO_2 , (b) first crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$, and (c) second, different, crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$.

A vitrified bonded abrasive article comprising a plurality of abrasive particles bonded together via vitrified bonding material, wherein at least a portion of said plurality of abrasive particles are fused, crystalline abrasive particles comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total volume of the respective particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least:

- (a) crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃ and
- (b) crystalline ZrO₂.

68. The vitrified bonded abrasive article according to claim, wherein at least a majority by weight of said crystalline ZrO₂ is cubic ZrO₂.

69. A method of abrading a surface, said method comprising:
contacting at least one fused, crystalline abrasive particle
comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total volume of the respective
particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least

(a) crystalline ZrO_2 and (b) at least two of (i) crystalline Al_2O_3 , (ii) first crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$, or (iii) second different, crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$, with a surface of a workpiece; and

moving at least of one said fused abrasive particle or said surface

relative to the other to abrade at least a portion of said surface with said fused abrasive particle.

The method according to claim 69, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO₂, (b) crystalline Al₂O₃, and (c) crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃.

The method according to claim 69, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO₂, (b) first crystalline complex Al₂O₃·Y₂O₃, and (c) second, different, crystalline complex Al₂O₃·Y₂O₃.

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72. A method of abrading a surface, said method comprising: contacting at least one fused, crystalline abrasive particle comprising at least 20 percent by volume, based on the total volume of the respective particle, eutectic material, wherein said eutectic material comprises eutectic of at least (a) crystalline complex Al₂O₃·Y₂O₃ and (b) crystalline ZrO₂, with a surface of a workpiece; and

moving at least of one said fused abrasive particle or said surface relative to the other to abrade at least a portion of said surface with said fused abrasive particle.

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The method according to claim 72, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO₂, (b) crystalline Al₂O₃, and (c) crystalline complex Al₂O₃ · Y₂O₃.

<u>~</u>[

The method according to claim $\frac{1}{2}$, wherein said eutectic is eutectic of at least (a) crystalline ZrO_2 , (b) first crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$, and (c) second, different, crystalline complex $Al_2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$.

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